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COUNTRY Colombia

PCC and PCO to Support New Labor Bill

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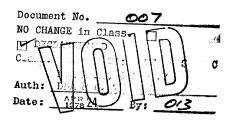
l. Augusto Duran, leader of the Partido Comunista Obrero, allegedly stated that a meeting of the Communist and labor syndicate leaders was held in Bogota on 20

- 2. It was announced at the meeting that Dr. Hernen Isaias Ibarra, a Gaitanista and member of the National House of Representatives, will introduce a labor bill in Congress, guaranteeing the moral and material rights of petroleum workers. This bill was drafted by Communist leaders Antonio Garcia, Gilberto Vieira White, Carlos Luis Perea, and Juan Francisco Mujica in consultation with Jorge Eliecer Gaitan, Liberal Party leader. According to Duran, both the Colombian Communist parties, the PCC and the PCO, are supporting this legislation.
- 3. Mujica stated that the Colombian government is obliged to support the petroleum workers. If the government should fail to do this, it will be necessary to organize a plebescite among the syndicates to determine whether they will demand their rights or allow the government to permit United States companies to exploit them. It was felt that, through popular opinion, a coup-de-grace could be delivered to American capitalism by creating a breach between the government, workers, and Yankee capital.

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